

Case 2751

***Paolia vetusta* Smith, 1871 (Insecta, Protorthoptera): proposed replacement of neotype by rediscovered holotype**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to replace the neotype of the Upper Carboniferous protorthopteran *Paolia vetusta* Smith, 1871 by the holotype which has recently been rediscovered in the collections of the Hanover College Museum, Indiana. The Dutch specimen designated as neotype by Laurentiaux (1950) is thought not to be conspecific with the holotype from Indiana.

1. Smith (1871, pp. 44–46, fig. 1) described and figured a new genus and species of Pennsylvanian (Upper Carboniferous) insect which he named *Paolia vetusta* from the Hindostan whetstone beds (Mansfield Formation) of Indiana, U.S.A. Smith's material consisted of a single hind wing. The specimen was reposit at the Hanover College Museum, Hanover, Indiana.

2. Laurentiaux (1950, p. 15) apparently attempted to borrow Smith's holotype, but was told that it had been lost. He wrote: 'Le spécimen génotypique décrit par S. Smith a été perdu en 1918 lors de l'incendie du College de Hannover où il était conservé. Je remercie les Professeurs Dunbar et Grant Wickwire qui m'ont communiqué ces informations'. In the light of this information Laurentiaux designated a neotype for *Paolia vetusta* based on collections from the Netherlands.

3. Kukulavá (1958, p. 949) judged Laurentiaux's neotype to be related to, but not conspecific with, *Paolia vetusta* Smith. She referred to his specimen as *Paolia* aff. *vetusta* Smith, 1871.

4. In 1984, after a thorough search of the collections at Hanover College, S.M. Totten (Geology Department, Hanover College), using a general description provided by myself, located Smith's missing holotype. It is registered as HCM A72/51. It had been scorched in the fire at Hanover College in 1918, and may have been further scorched in another fire in 1941.

5. I (Maples, 1989) refigured and redescribed the holotype which, until then, had never been photographed, gave a list of citations and pointed out (p. 887) that, with the rediscovery of the holotype, Laurentiaux's specimen should no longer have type status. Article 75h of the Code states that 'if, after the designation of a neotype, the holotype... of the nominal species-group taxon is found still to exist, the case is to be referred to the Commission to rule whether the neotype is or is not to be retained as the name-bearing type'. Since the rediscovered holotype has now been figured and is available for study, and since the neotype is thought not to be conspecific, it would be desirable for the Commission to rule that the rediscovered holotype should replace the neotype.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to suppress the neotype designation made by Laurentiaux (1950) for *Paolia vetusta* Smith, 1871;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Paolia* Smith, 1871 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Paolia vetusta* Smith, 1871;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *vetusta* Smith, 1871, as published in the binomen *Paolia vetusta*, and as defined by the holotype HCM A72/51 (specific name of the type species of *Paolia* Smith, 1871).

References

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- Laurentiaux, D. 1950. Les insectes houillers du Limbourg hollandais. *Mededelingen van de Geologische Stichting*, n.s., **4**: 13–22.
- Maples, C.G. 1989. *Paolia vetusta* Smith, 1871 (Insecta: Protorthoptera), from the Mansfield Formation (Pennsylvanian), Indiana. *Journal of Paleontology*, **63**: 886–889.
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